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From: Kathryn Webb, CSSA Liaison

To: ASI Board of Directors

Subject: November Board Report

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**Fall 2021 Office Hours:**

Monday: 8:30-11:30 AM

Wednesday: 1:00-5:00 PM

Thursday: 3:00-5:00/5:30 PM (LC)

Friday 8:00-11:30 AM

Contact Info:

Email- [asicssarep@csus.edu](mailto:asicssarep@csus.edu)

Phone- 916-278-3924

**Special Note**

This will be my last ASI monthly board report, as I will be resigning on November 17, 2021. Between now and then, please reach out to me with any questions you may have so we can wrap everything up before I leave. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors, and I cannot wait to see what this year's ASI Board achieves.

**California State Student Association (CSSA)**

CSSA met virtually for one day on November 6, 2021. This meeting was largely informational, and we received information on the in-person plenary in January, and an information item on ensuring students ability to voice their opinions on campus police without intimidation from administration. You can find my whole plenary report [here](#), which will have a synopsis of each committee meeting that is relevant to the board. If you have any questions, please let me know.

**Lobby Corps**

We have had two meetings since my last report. On October 21, 2021 we had Melissa Bardo, who works for the California Community College Chancellor's Office come and present to the committee. It was a wonderful presentation and the committee was able to learn a lot.

Sidra presented a synopsis of all the bills Governor Newsom signed into law, and we were also able to hear committee members present on bills they found particularly interesting from the past legislative cycle.

Our second meeting was on November 4, 2021. We held mock advocacy visits, where students were able to get an idea of how to analyze legislation and how an advocacy visit is run.

Our last meeting will be held November 18, 2021. Even though it is the last meeting of the year, I encourage you all to attend as you will be able to get an idea of what you all will be working on next semester. Reach out to the Legislative Affairs Coordinator Sidra Nawaz with any questions.

## **OGA**

Starting right after the CSSA plenary in October, I have been meeting with various campus resource centers to spread awareness of CSSA and learn more about what topics students are interested in. Below please find a summary of each of my meetings, and feel free to reference these notes in your own advocacy work. **I encourage you to reach out to these centers as well.**

- **Project Rebound**

- I met with Nehemiah Rodriguez on October 11, 2021 to learn more about Project Rebound and discuss how CSSA can be an advocacy route for students in this program. The major topics Nehemiah brought up as priorities for this campus center were access to childcare, housing, addressing food insecurity, and ensuring there are enough counseling resources for students. Other areas we discussed were increasing student engagement, and I was able to share resources on ASI committees and Lobby Corps. One last legislative priority that Project Rebound shared with me is expanding bachelor's programs in prisons, as incarcerated students are only able to achieve up to an Associate's while serving their sentence.

- **Services to Students with Disabilities**

- I met with Mary Lee Vance on October 14, 2021 via Zoom. We were able to review the CSSA policy agenda and discuss this document. One of the important takeaways from this meeting was to center intersectionality in all of our advocacy efforts, and to explicitly state how our advocacy efforts will include and support disabled students. If this language is not written down, it is easy for voices to remain marginalized. With this in mind, we discussed some advocacy areas of interest. To begin, mental health resources are a priority for this campus center. Physical safety is another priority, and we discussed how campus police need to be trained to help students with disabilities when responding to a call. We also discussed increasing faculty representation, as well as representation in campus staff and administration. There are disabled voices in all identities, and it is important we recognize this in our advocacy efforts. Another area of interest on campus is including disability rights history, as well as disabled voices across the curriculum that the university offers. Disabilities also impact transfer students, who face additional barriers to achieving the CSU requirements for transfer. I was

also made aware of the student group DANA, or the Disabled and Non-Disabled Alliance and their efforts on campus, such as creating a training program on how to use scooters without harming disabled students.

- **APIDA Student Center**

- I met with Chao Vang on October 15, 2021 via Zoom. We were able to discuss many topics and ideas for advocacy efforts both on campus and at the state and federal level. On the campus level, we discussed the ASI food pantry and Chao brought up including culturally relevant foods for APIDA student in the food pantry. Other areas of interest are ensuring there are culturally competent counselors on campus to promote mental health, as well as culturally competent career counselors. At the state level, a legislative priority for the APIDA center is data disaggregation. Data disaggregation would help the campus be better able to distribute resources to student populations that need it most. They are currently working with the California Commission for AAPI Affairs and the AAPI Legislative Caucus on this topic. At both a state and federal level, tracking anti-Asian American hate crimes remains a priority as well.

- **PRIDE Center**

- I met with Trinh Pham from the PRIDE center on October 15 in the University Union. I had a wonderful conversation with them, and learned a lot more about what the PRIDE center does on campus. For the Pride center, prioritized topics came up such as finding belonging on campus, and updating the maps of restrooms on campus. As of right now, the signs are not up to date and this can make it difficult for students to access restrooms. In addition, we had a discussion on the importance of having gender affirming healthcare workers in the medical services the campus provides as well as diverse counselors. In addition, it was suggested that advertising healthcare workers are gender affirming would be beneficial for students. One other topic of interest was ensuring campus police have been trained in areas of sexuality and gender identity to work better with all of our students.

- **Veteran Student Success Center**

- I met with Austin Sihoe on October 22 via Zoom. I was informed on programs the Veteran Student Success Center offers, such as the Veteran Career Pathway Program, which helps veteran students learn soft skills such as resume building and how to write cover letters. This campus resource center also offers support to students who are dependents of veterans. One other main task the Veteran Student Success center works on is certifying education benefits. From a legislative standpoint, this campus resource center tracks Veteran Affairs legislation that passes through Congress, such as compliance legislation that mandates how many veteran students can be in the same program.

- **Native Scholars & Transitions Program**

- I met with Jose Mejia, Amanda Croteau, and Maria Pulido Sepulveda on Monday, October 25, 2021 via Zoom. I was able to talk about CSSA in depth and talk about how students can utilize advocacy routes through CSSA. We were also able

to discuss what areas indigenous students are most interested in. This included representation in mental health and faculty. Mental health counselors are necessary to help students overcome historical traumas, and by having representation in counselors and healing circles, students will know that there is a place for them in this institution. Moreover, we discussed the importance of having land acknowledgements at all CSU's and at all events, as well as on the first day of class, in course syllabi, and placing a land acknowledgement plaque on campus. It was mentioned that land acknowledgements should be created by centering the voice of indigenous students and local tribe leaders. It is also imperative that the university and CSU works with local tribes to ensure that students are getting the proper resources.

- **Women's Resource Center**

- I met with Aisha Engels from the Women's Resource Center on Monday, November 1 from 10 AM to 10:30 AM. We discussed AB 367, which provides free menstrual products to students on CSU campuses. The Women's Resource Center had been providing this service before the legislation was signed into law, and they are excited to see it be implemented Systemwide. It was suggested that safe sex products be provided to residential halls and students in general for free as well. We also discussed the important role of the Women's Resource Center, as it provides a place of belonging for students, which helps expand the narrative to include all intersections of being a woman. The programs and events the WRC holds promote feminism and allyship, and they help students in academic and career success. In regard to specific student interests, we discussed how the WRC provides a space for unspoken things to become spoken. Students can discuss the microaggressions they've faced, how to deal with grief, or how to find their voice in their community, among many other things. These spaces should be protected, and students should be encouraged to utilize the resources available to them.

Thank you to all of the resource centers who have met with me so far for taking the time to discuss student points of interests with me. These conversations have been beneficial and have brought up many new perspectives that I had not previously considered. After I completed this set of meetings, I was able to meet with the ASI President and go over all the notes I took while in these meetings. **I encourage the board to continue these conversation, and to meet with more campus resource centers, as they are a wonderful resource to truly understand what our students need.**

In addition to these meetings, I was also able to meet with Nathan Dietrich from the Division of Public Affairs and Administration along with Sidra and Lexie. Here, we discussed legislative priorities and topics that came up in conversation with the campus resource centers.

### **Events and Calendar Items**

October 13      Attended ASI Board Meeting

October 14      Met with Mary Lee Vance from Services to Students with Disabilities via Zoom

October 15 Met with Chao Vang from the APIDA Student Center via Zoom  
October 15 Met with PRIDE Center in the Union  
October 18 Met with Austin Sihoe from Veteran Student Success Center  
October 18 Met with ASI President to Discuss Conversations with Campus Partners  
October 21 Met with Nathan Dietrich  
October 21 Attended Lobby Corps  
October 25 Met with Native Scholars & Transitions Program  
October 29 Met with ASI East Bay to Check in on CIVIC  
November 3 Attended ASI Board Meeting  
November 4 Attended Lobby Corps  
November 5 Met with ASI President to discuss CSSA  
November 6 Attended the November CSSA Plenary

If you have any questions about anything in this report, please reach out to me before November 17, 2021. If you have any questions after this date, please reach out to Lisa Dalton.

Best regards,

**Kathryn Webb** | **CSSA Liaison**

*She/Her/Hers*

**Associated Students, Inc.**